

SLA Woman 'Said She Killed Foster'

MAY 21 1975

SACRAMENTO (AP) — A defense witness said today Nancy Ling Perry told him she had killed Oakland schools Supt. Marcus Foster and said two other members of the so-called "Symbionese Liberation Army" had helped her.

Mrs. Perry identified the two as "Willie" and "Cinq," said the witness, Rudy Henderson.

Willie Wolfe and Donald (Cinque) DeFreeze were killed along with Mrs. Perry and three other SLA members a year ago in a shootout with Los Angeles police.

Missing newspaper heiress Patricia Hearst called "Cujo" her "lover" in a communique after the shootout. Authorities identified Cujo as Wolfe.

Miss Hearst, granddaughter of newspaper publisher William Randolph Hearst, was allegedly kidnaped by the SLA Feb. 4, 1974, but later said she had joined the terrorist group.

SLA members Russell Little and Joseph Remiro are on trial for the Nov. 6, 1973 murder of Foster.

Henderson, owner of several mobile food stands in Berkeley, said Mrs. Perry worked for him during 1973 and later became his girlfriend.

About a day after Foster was killed on Nov. 6, 1973, Henderson said, Mrs. Perry visited him and he told her he thought she had been involved in the killing.

"She first said, 'No' and kind of smiled, but when you know a person you know when they don't mean no," Henderson testified. About a week later, he said, he read in a newspaper that one of the assailants may have been a woman, and again asked Mrs. Perry if she had been involved.

"She said, 'Yeah, it was me,'" Henderson, a slightly built black man in his 40s, told the jury in a matter-of-fact voice.

"I told her I thought it was stupid and the two guys who were with her were stupid," the witness said, as the defendants sat quietly in the courtroom.

"She said Willie was far from being stupid and Cing was wise in the ways of the street."

Under cross-examination, Henderson said he had kept silent about the conversation until two weeks ago, because he feared retaliation and didn't want to get involved in the case.

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D.A. Stunned By Witness In SLA Trial

MAY 22 1975
Special to The Tribune

SACRAMENTO — Alameda County Dist. Atty. D. Lowell Jensen, his murder case against Russell Little and Joseph Remiro critically shaken by a surprise defense witness, says he still feels a conspiracy case can be made against the defendants in the Marcus Foster murder trial.

Berkeley fruit drink stand owner Rudolph Henderson calmly told the jury his former girl friend, Nancy Ling Perry, told him she and two others assassinated Foster in November, 1973.

The others, he said, were Donald (Cinque) DeFreeze and Willie Wolfe of the so-called "Symbionese Liberation Army," who died with Ms. Perry in a shootout a year ago with Los Angeles police.

The defense then rested its case — only a week after it began.

The courtroom was stunned by the testimony and so, apparently, was Jensen. But the prosecutor said he feels he has made a good circumstantial case to show that Little and Remiro helped plan the murder along with other SLA members.

Defense attorneys James Jenner and Edward Merrill were elated with the impact of Henderson's testimony. Jenner called it "devastating."

Merrill said he thought the witness "got out unscathed" by Jensen's brief cross-examination.

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Henderson, 48, operator of Fruity Rudy mobile juice stands in the Bay Area, said Ms. Perry at first visited his business, then worked there and later spent frequent evenings with him.

About a day after Foster was killed, he said, he asked her if she were involved because he believed she was a member of an organization that might have had a connection with the assassination.

"She kinda smiled and said 'no,' but when you know a person, you know when they don't mean no," Henderson said.

He said about a week later he read in a newspaper that one of the assailants may have been a woman. So he confronted her again: "I know that it was you. They got your description and everything."

"She said, 'Yeah, it was me,' " Henderson continued.

"I told her I thought it was stupid and the two guys who were with her were stupid. She said Willie (apparently Wolfe) was far from being stupid and Cinq (apparently DeFreeze) was wise in the ways of the street."

Henderson said she did not tell him anything more about the murder, although she sometimes talked about other people she thought should die, mentioning the University of California Board of Regents and former Gov. Ronald Reagan, for whom she had a special loathing.

Henderson's statement marked the second time during the often hectic trial that a witness has taken the stand to say Little, 25, and Remiro, 28, were innocent of Foster's murder.

A prosecution witness, Clifford (Death Row Jeff) Jefferson, unexpectedly told the jury April 23 that he gave Wolfe the order for the slaying and that Remiro and Little had nothing to do with it.

Several defense witnesses have said the assailants included two black men. Remiro and Little are white.

Outside the courtroom, Henderson told reporters he contacted defense attorneys only a couple of weeks ago.

"I wanted to have off my conscience anything I knew so no matter what way the trial ended I would have nothing to feel bad about," he said.

...about, he said.
"At first I was afraid for my life. Later on I was still in business, and I didn't want any adverse publicity."

Finally, on May 1, he said, he told a friend he identified only as Pedro everything he knew. He said Pedro told him to go to the defense attorneys. "He said if I didn't call them he would."

Following Henderson's testimony, the defense rested its case and the prosecution, which finished earlier, brought on rebuttal witnesses.

Christopher Thompson returned to the stand to reiterate his earlier testimony for the prosecution that he sold a Rossi revolver to Little. Prosecution expert witnesses testified a Rossi was used in Foster's slaying.

A defense witness, Michael McMahon, a Hastings law student, told the jury earlier this week Thompson told him he really sold the revolver to Ms. Perry instead of Little. But Thompson said he stands by his testimony to the jury.

Fruit Juice Vendor Wins Police Suit

SEP 24 1975

BERKELEY — Rudolph Henderson, charging that a police officer assaulted and falsely arrested and jailed him in December, 1972, has won \$1,700 in general damages from the City of Berkeley in court.

A Berkeley-Albany Municipal Court jury also ordered officer Ron Kihara to pay \$150 in punitive damages.

Henderson is known for his sidewalk fruit juice vending

stands and for his friendship with slain "Symbionese Liberation Army" member Nancy Ling Perry, who once worked in one of his stands.

According to the suit, Kihara, in his private car and wearing civilian clothes, pulled up beside Henderson as the two were driving on Telegraph Avenue toward the University of California. Henderson had driven onto Telegraph ahead of Kihara and the officer overtook him and shouted at him.

As the pair continued onto Bancroft Way, said the suit, Henderson stuck out his tongue and Kihara motioned him toward the curb, first with his hand and then with a pistol.

Not knowing that Kihara was an officer, Henderson testified, he fled toward the police station on McKinley Avenue to seek help. Henderson drove into the police parking lot and Kihara arrested him at gunpoint as he got out of his car.

Henderson was arrested for resisting arrest, never prosecuted, and for reckless driving, of which he was acquitted.